IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph before the first paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/432,544 filed December 11, 2002, which is incorporated herein by reference.

The present invention relates generally to breathing of disk scheduling algorithms, and more particularly, to methods for improving the breathing by delaying the handling of real-time requests, provided certain conditions are not satisfied, to alleviate problems associated with prior art breathing of disk scheduling algorithms.